# Wednesday, July 15, 2009

## Plan on attending an energydriven WASHTO conference in North Dakota July 11-14, 2010



Experience North Dakota's breathtaking landscapes and kind hospitality, while receiving technical training fueled by an energy-driven meeting agenda at the WASHTO 2010 Conference July 11-14, 2010, in Bismarck, North Dakota.

The theme "Driving Energy Independence" highlights the necessity to be innovative and visionary as we lead transportation efforts across the nation.

This meeting will be an energy-driven WASHTO conference where ideas are shared to fuel our abilities to be better leaders in our states.

Set in the state's capital city of Bismarck, you can take time to enjoy the beautiful Missouri River, blue skies, and grand sunsets. A variety of tours and activities will be available and will focus on North Dakota's progress and commitment toward energy independence.

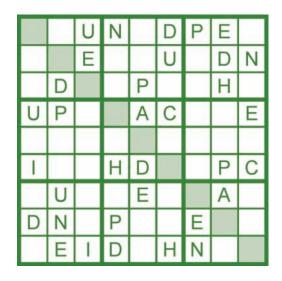
In gathering together for this conference, opportunities will be provided to gain insight from other transportation officials and build on knowledge that will focus on achieving goals.

Bring your family along, and together you will enjoy the abundance of friendly smiles and great adventures that North Dakota has to offer.

More information can be found on the website:
WASHTO2010.com

## **Puzzle: ICE UP HAND**

Each row, column and 3x3 square contains the letters in the phrase exactly once. The hidden word or phrase is spelled down the diagonal.



Р	0	N	Н	n	D	1	Ξ	A
Н	n	3	A	1	Ь	0	N	a
1	A	О	N	3	0	Ь	n	Н
0	Р	N	3	D	Н	N	A	1
а								
3	N	Н	0	A	1	D	Ь	n
n	Н	0	T	Ь	Ξ	A	D	N
N								
A	3	Ч	D	Н	N	n	1	0



Your host state of Washington thanks you for joining us in Seattle for WASHTO 2009. Visit www.washto2009.com for Annual Meeting photos and more.





# Today's Events

#### Wednesday, July 15

## Registration

7:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

#### **Continental Breakfast**

7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

#### Cyber Café

7:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.

# ARTBA – CAO Breakfast (Invitation Only)

7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m

#### **Exhibitors' Trade Show**

7:30 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.

#### **Technical Sessions**

9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

#### **Technical Sessions**

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

#### Lunch

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

#### **Plenary Session**

1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

#### Plenary Session

3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

#### Closing Dinner

6:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

#### **WASHTO elects Paula Hammond President**

Washington Transportation Secretary Paula Hammond was elected Tuesday as WASHTO's next President.

Transportation Directors from 18 states voted unanimously in favor of Hammond at the annual meeting this week in Seattle.

Texas Transportation Department Executive Director Amadeo Saenz Jr. was elected Vice-President for 2009–2010. Both officers' terms will run through the WASHTO's next annual meeting next July in Bismarck, ND.



Washington Transportation Secretary Paula Hammond

### **WASHTO News Conference Draws Media**

State department of transportation directors from 18 states hosted a news conference Tuesday highlighting the rapid delivery pace of federal recovery act jobs and highway projects bolstering the nation's economic recovery.

Washington Transportation Secretary Paula Hammond, Caltrans Director Will Kempton, and Utah Transportation Executive Director John Njord each conveyed how thousands of projects were approved by states in record time, and below budget estimates.

Nationwide, 2,000 construction projects are now underway, worth more than \$6 billion. A total of 5,600 projects have been identified and approved for bidding, which means a total of \$16.7 billion will be flowing into the economy over the next two years.



Transportation directors united to communicate the positive impacts of federal stimulus projects across the western U.S.

"Highway investment creates more than construction jobs, it keeps our whole economy moving forward," said John Horsley, executive director of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials. "We also must move to enact a six year highway and transit authorization bill that sustains this strategic investment in people and in the kind of transportation improvements the economy desperately needs."



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### **Sponsor Highlight: David Evans and Associates**



DAVID EVANS
AND ASSOCIATES INC.

# Columbia River Crossing Project

A unique transportation planning partnership in has taken shape in the Columbia River Crossing project (CRC), involving two states, six local agencies, the federal transit and highway administrations, and thousands of engaged community members.

CRC is a long-term comprehensive solution to the transportation issues surrounding the I-5 crossing at the Columbia River between Portland, OR and Vancouver, WA.



David Evans and Associates is the consultant lead on the Columbia River Crossing Project

It includes bridge, transit, and highway improvements aimed at enhancing travel safety and efficiency for all modes on a key stretch of I-5. With one million more people expected in the Portland-Vancouver region by 2030, an integrated, multi-modal solution is necessary to address the six problems identified by the community through the environmental process.

CRC will build a replacement bridge for I-5 over the Columbia River, improve five miles of highway and seven interchanges, extend light rail from Portland to Vancouver, and upgrade pedestrian and bicycle facilities. Over 50 structures on land or over water will be constructed or improved. CRC anticipates that tolling will be part of the funding for the project and will be implemented to help manage congestion.

Under direction from the Washington and Oregon Departments of Transportation, David Evans and Associates. Inc. (DEA) is leading a team of 28 consultants to work through the National Environmental Policy Act process to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and provide preliminary engineering for the CRC.

In 2010, CRC expects to release the final EIS and a federal decision on the project. In 2011, design will be finalized with construction possibly beginning by 2012.

## **West Coast Green Highway Initiative**



H2 Road Tour at the Washington state Capitol campus in Olympia (above).

The states of Washington, Oregon, California, and the province of British Columbia are working together on the West Coast Green Highway Initiative. This innovative multi-state project aims to help increase the market demand and use of alternative fuel vehicles, primarily in the I-5 corridor from "BC to Baja." Motorists using the 1,300-mile "corridor of the future" will be able to charge or swap their electric-vehicle batteries or to fill their tanks with biodiesel, ethanol, hydrogen or compressed natural gas.

Encouraged by President Obama's remarks lauding the West Coast Green Highway Initiative, each state DOT is working in partnerships with the private sector to move the initiative forward. While the overall efforts are coordinated, each state is taking a slightly different tact at implementation.

WSDOT is implementing an alternative fuels pilot project. Oregon DOT is working on an a demonstration project to



design standards for electric vehicle charging stations and to conduct public outreach.

The West Coast Green Highway initiative helps spur transformation from petroleum-based fuels to low and zero carbon fuels to help meet state and national greenhouse gas reduction goals, create green jobs, and advance energy independence.

## WSDOT measures its impact on climate change



What is your organization's carbon footprint?

As climate change becomes an increasing concern, Washington State DOT is taking steps to monitor the amount of greenhouse gas emissions produced during its normal course of business.

The agency's climate change team recently completed the 2007 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory, which is believed to be the first of its kind among state DOTs. The inventory measures

emissions from day-to-day activities such as operating ferries and powering traffic signals. The inventory serves as a starting point for looking at ways to reduce the agency's carbon footprint to help reach greenhouse gas reduction goals set by the state legislature.

Starting in 2010, new state laws will require WSDOT to report agency emissions to the State Department of Ecology. Preparing

the emissions inventory has helped the agency to better understand how to successfully meet its upcoming mandatory reporting requirements.

WSDOT has a better understanding of how this type of inventory is prepared, what data is currently available, and where new tools are needed.

# Sneak preview of today's climate change session



With an estimated 33 percent of greenhouse gas emissions in the United States coming from transportation, there is a

growing interest in climate change and transportation at both the state and national levels.

DOTs are figuring out how to respond to new mandates to reduce emissions from the transportation sector using a full suite of strategies:

- Reducing vehicle miles traveled (VMT)
- Improving vehicle technology
- Lowering the carbon content of fuels
- Improving the efficiency of the transportation system

Come to this afternoon's plenary session to learn more about this important topic. Panelists will cover

a range of topics including how states can reduce greenhouse gas emissions, how regional and national cap and trade could affect transportation, and ways to prepare for the impacts of climate change. Panelists will also discuss innovative ways to fund sustainable investments in transportation.

Washington Transportation Secretary Paula Hammond, recently appointed as the chair of the AASHTO Climate Change Steering Committee, will be moderating the session.